<u>REMARKS</u>

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment prior to examination on the merits. Claims 5, 10, 12, 13, 20, 26, and 32 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. After entry of the amendment, claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 14-19, 21-25, and 27-31 will be pending.

The claims have been amended to comply with 37 CFR 1.75(b) published in 72 Fed. Reg. 46716 (August 21, 2007), which becomes effective November 1, 2007. If 37 CFR 1.75(b) as published in the Federal Register on August 21, 2007 is not implemented on November 1, 2007 for any reason, Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce the cancelled subject matter.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 30, 2007

Mark T. Skoog Reg. No. 40,178 Eric E. DeMaster Reg. No. 55,107

MTS:kf